

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending.

In response to the requirement that foreign priority be claimed in the Declaration or an Application Data Sheet, an Application Data Sheet accompanies this Amendment.

In response to the requirement for submitting the amended claims in the manner required by 37 CFR 1.73(b), the above claims have been amended as required.

In response to the rejection of all the claims under 35 USC 251 because the Reissue Declaration is allegedly defective under 37 CFR 1.175, a new Reissue Declaration accompanies this Amendment.

In response to the rejection of claims 20-21 under 35 USC 102(b), because the application is allegedly anticipated by the publication of US5544247 to Ten Kate on Aug. 6, 1996, Applicant traverses the rejection as follows. The citation does not suggest a step to "obtain a data expanded composite information signal" as in claim 20. In Ten Kate the composite quantized signal is demultiplexed into respective signals L, R, C before it is applied to respective dequantizers, and the dequantizers output respective L, R, and C that are never combined to obtain a composite data expanded signal.

The claims are definite and distinguished from the citations and Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of all the claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any fee (except the issue fee) including fees for any required extension of time, to Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

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